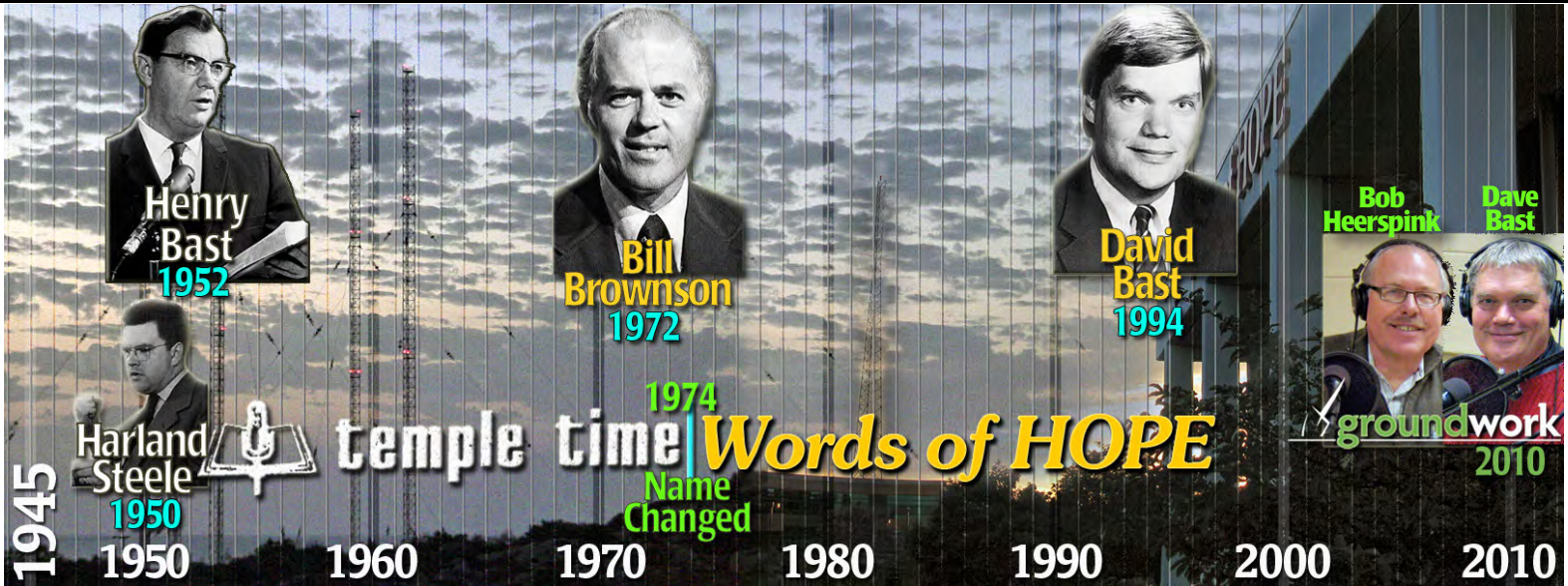


Words of HOPE

UPDATE

Good News. No Boundaries. 700 Ball Avenue NE • Grand Rapids, MI 49503 • 800-459-6181 • www.woh.org | March-April 2010



“Groundwork” Program Debuts

On July 22, 1945, Words of Hope aired its first English broadcast under the name *Temple Time*. Over 65 years, the program has changed in many ways. On April 18, the *Words of Hope* program will change again.

Words of Hope and ReFrame Media (the English-language ministry of Back to God Ministries International) have combined resources to launch *Groundwork*, a new half-hour audio program that teaches the Christian faith.

Recognizing the changing listening needs of today’s audiences, the programs known as *Words of Hope* and *The Back to God Hour* have been reformatted and combined under a new name. *Groundwork*, hosted by Rev. Dave Bast (of Words of Hope) and Rev. Bob Heerspink (of BTGMI), will explore Scripture in depth from a Reformed perspective.



Back to God
Ministries International

“Our preaching program has undergone numerous changes through the years. We have changed speakers, formats, priorities. We have even changed our name, from *Temple Time* to *Words of Hope*. I see the change to *Groundwork* as part of this



ongoing process of adapting to new contexts and seizing new opportunities,” states Words of Hope president Dave Bast. He adds, “It’s also a great example of partnership between two ministries from two different denominations.”

Each week, Bast and Heerspink turn the soil of Scripture and cultivate the Christian life. *Groundwork* will continue the teaching ministry of *Words of Hope* and *The Back to God Hour*, but in a format that will attract new listeners. By sharing resources, both organizations can reach growing audiences.

Groundwork will broadcast on some of the same stations that

currently air *Words of Hope* and *The Back to God Hour*. Listeners can find a list of stations and new programs on the new *Groundwork* web site, GroundworkOnline.com. You can also look for program updates and station information in your church bulletin.

Before *Groundwork* launches on Sunday April 18, the April 4 and 11 *Words of Hope* programs will look back on 65 years of broadcasting and look forward to the new *Groundwork* format.

Words of Hope and BTGMI also partner in *Spotlight* (an English as a Second Language international program), in Arabic-language outreach throughout the Middle East, and through a new partnership in India and South Asia.

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR:

- Self-powered radios help needy listeners
- Todd Schuling rejoins staff



More than 150 listeners in Niger have gratefully received self-powered Words of Hope radios since October, 2009

1,100 Self-Powered Radios Help Needy Listeners

As Words of Hope broadcasts Bible-based radio programs around the world, we are working with our indigenous partners to extend radio access to eager listeners who lack electricity. In 2009 more than 1,100 self-powered wind-up radios were distributed to listening areas where they're needed most.



The radios were provided through the generous support of Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, and various special offerings. They can be self-powered without batteries by winding an attached crank connected to an internal magneto. The radios also feature a bright LED flashlight as well as the capacity for charging a mobile phone. (Many listeners who own cellular phones dwell in homes that lack electricity.)

Words of Hope distributed radios to needy listeners in Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, India, Bhutan, and Niger. Many people are clamoring for the radios; demand far exceeds supply. The radios feature clear shortwave, AM, and FM reception. Their phone-charging capabilities have proven especially beneficial for listeners who had previously found it necessary to travel some distance to pay for recharging services.

Costs including distribution average \$40 per radio.

We recently received an e-mail from a grateful radio recipient who is now a student in Khartoum, Sudan:

"Thanks so much the wind-up radio! I really appreciate it

and the way your Nuer broadcasts are enabling people to better understand the words of God. Now I can constantly listen to your Nuer broadcasts. I would once again urge you to continue doing so and the almighty God will support you and your work."

Our Nigerien partner recently wrote: *"Thanks to the donors of these radios. The radio is and remains the best means of evangelization in Niger."*

If you would like to receive the Words of HOPE UPDATE regularly and are not already on our mailing list, please contact us at www.woh.org, or call 1(800)459-6181. Contributions to support Words of Hope's outreach are welcomed at:

**700 Ball Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

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Welcome Back, Todd Schuiling

Words of Hope is pleased to welcome back Todd Schuiling to the staff. Todd served for ten years as Director of Development at Words of Hope.



He returns after two years as Director of Development at the Community Foundation of Holland/Zeeland. His new position is Assistant to the President for Development.

Todd brings nearly 25 years of professional development experience to the position. In addition to West Michigan, Todd will have regional responsibilities in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana.



See a video about this project at: www.woh.org/voice/videos